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SECRET



Republic of the Philippines National Intelligence Board

National Intelligence Committee REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE-4B (MIMAROPA)

Batangas City E-mail: ro4b@nica.gov.ph

ERIC-4B MESSAGE NOTICE Nr 23A-003

TO: Ms CAROLINA CONSTANTINO

Dir KARL CAESAR R. RIMANDO, CESO III

Atty **HASSEN SHAUN OBSUM**

Dir RUBEN CARANDANG

RD FERDINAND LAVIN Mr ROBERT Q JONES

Dir III LAUREFEL GABALES, PhD

Mr WINSTON BARQUEZ Dir MANUEL BETAIZAR

Dir **AGUSTIN C MENDOZA**

Dir JOEL VALERA Dir ANGELITO SACRO Dir NICOLAS CAPULONG Atty **JOSELITO ALISUAG** Dir ANGELINA CARREON

Dir **NAOMI LYN ABELLANA** Dir **Leonardo Reynoso** Dr MARIO BAQUILOD

Dir ANTONIO GERUNDIO, CESO III

Dir ELIZER SALILIG Atty MARVIN BERNAL Dir YOLANDA NAVARRO Engr WILLIAM RAGADON Engr **GERALD PACANAN** Engr MAXIMO CABASAL Dir VICTORIA MENDOZA Dir **LENI RIOFLORIDO**

Dir Marie Grace T Pascua, DPA, CESO III - NCIP-4B

Dir LORMELYN CLAUDIO Atty **BEVIENNE MALATEO** Dir MA JOSEFINA ABILAY Dir MARIA ANGELITA CELLS COL NEIL ALFONSO ROLDAN PA

PCOL ERWIN DAYAG PCOL ROLANDO LAMPAD PCOL JOSEPH TALENTO CDR MARK FRANCISCO PN

CDR **NOEL VIRREY PN** PLTCOL ERWIN EMELO - DFA RCO PPC

OCD-MIMAROPA

DILG-MIMAROPA

DOJ-4

NBI-MIMAROPA

PDEA-MIMAROPA

OTS, DoTr

- LTO-MIMAROPA

- NEDA-4B

- DTI-MIMAROPA - CDA-MIMAROPA - DEPED-MIMAROPA

- CHED-4B - TESDA-4B

- DOLE-MIMAROPA DSWD-MIMAROPA DOH-MIMAROPA

- DA RFO-4B

- BFAR-MIMAROPA - DAR-MIMAROPA - NFA-MIMAROPA - NIA-MIMAROPA - DPWH-MIMAROPA - NHA-MIMAROPA - PIA-MIMAROPA - PSA-MIMAROPA

- DENR-MIMAROPA - DOT-MIMAROPA - DOST-MIMAROPA - DBM-MIMAROPA - U2, SOLCOM - CIDG RFU-4B

- RMFB-4B

- RACU-MIMAROPA - U2, WESCOM - MIG22, ISAFP - ID, APC-SL

PLTCOL ALLAN MACAPAGAL PLTCOL **NEFTALY A DONATO** LTC MARK ANTHONY FERNANDEZ

PMAJ JINKY TUGUIC MAJ ALLAN DAQUIOAG

MAJ RYAN LACUESTA PN(M)

CDR CHRISTOPHER L MATAMMU PN

CPT BASIL JED GONZALES (MI) PA

CPT EDGAR ANTONION PN(M)

LT GLEND DJ AVILA PN 1LT MANNY LIZARAN PAF

CG ENS JOHN KEVIN C YU

CG ENS ROSTUM ALIBAT

- 4th ISU, AIR

- MBLT3

- RIU-4B

- RID, PRO-4B

- TOG-4, PAF

- 10th SAB, PNP-SAF

- NAVFORWEST/NISG-WEST

- S2, 203BDE, 2ID, PA

- G2, 3MBDE - NISG-SL

- 3012AISS, 300AISW, PAF

- CGIG-STL

- CGIG-PALAWAN

FROM: DIR **ARIEL T PERLADO** MNSA

Chair, ERIC-4B

SUBJECT: **Summary of Discussion and Decision Points**

ERIC-4B 3Q2022 Meeting (21 September 2022),

as approved on 15 December 2022

10 JANUARY 2023 DATE

DIR ARIEL T PERLADO MNSA

NICA-4B Regional Director

ERIC-4B Chair

RO4B-23A-003

Republic of the Philippines National Intelligence Board

National Intelligence Committee EXPANDED REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE-4B (MIMAROPA)

Joint ERIC-4B and MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC TWG/SAKM Cluster 3rd Quarter 2022 Meeting

Zoom Video Teleconference | 211400H September 2022

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION AND DECISION POINTS

1 2 3 4 5	The NICA-4B held the Joint ERIC-4B and MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC TWG/SAKM Cluster meeting for third quarter 2022 on 211400H Sep 2022 vic Zoom video teleconference, with RD Ariel T Perlado , Chair, ERIC-4B, as the presiding officer.						
6		The agenda of the meeting were as follows:					
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14		 Update on the Peace and Order in MIMAROPA; Counter-CTG Sectoral Organizing; Update on the implementation of the Barangay Development Plan (BDP) and Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP); and Issues and Concerns on MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC. 					
15	I. Attendance						
16							
17		The	meeting was attended by	47 representatives and members from			
18	the	e NTF-ELCAC Secretariat, ERIC-4B member-agencies, and NICA-4B, as					
19	follo	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
20							
21		NTF-	ELCAC Secretariat				
22		1.	Executive Director USec	Emmanuel B Salamat			
23	2. Dir Maria Cecilia J Pacis						
24	3. Dir Ferdinand Arnulfo Bajarin						
25		4.	Dir Monico Batle				
26							
27		Prov	rincial Local Governments				
28		5.	Romblon LGU	Mr Roland Geronimo			
29		6.	Palawan LGU	Ms Yanika Eli Serutabia			
30							
31		Reg	ional Line Government Ag	encies			
32		7.	DILG-MIMAROPA	Ms Myla Panganiban			
33	8. CHED-MIMAROPA RD Atty Joselito Alisuag						
34		9.	DepEd-MIMAROPA	Atty Joana Rose Labuguen			

Ms Jonalyn Flores

10.

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DSWD-MIMAROPA

36	11.	BFAR-MIMAROPA	AQII Alfonso Dela Torre
37	12.	NEDA-MIMAROPA	Ms Sheryl Sarabia
38	13.	DOT-MIMAROPA	Atty Bevienne Malateo
39	14.	OCD-MIMAROPA	Mr Marc Rembrandt P Victore
40	15.	PIA-MIMAROPA	RD Vicki Mendoza
41			
42	Civilio	an Law Enforcement Agenci	es
43	16.	PDEA-MIMAROPA	Agent Robert Maslian
44	17.	NBI-MIMAROPA	RD Atty Ferdinand Lavin
45	18.	Bureau of Immigration	Mr Robert Q Jones
46		J	
47	AFP		
48	19.	O/U2, SOLCOM	LTC DE Mantes PA
49	20.	O/U2, WESCOM	Cdr Mark Francisco PN
50	21.	MIG-22, ISAFP	TSgt Ronnie S Cabaltera PA
51	22.	4ISU, AIR	MAJ Allan Daquioag PA
52	23.	203BDE, 2ID, PA	Cpl Regie D Ereal PA
53	24.	3012 nd AISS, 300AISW, PAF	1Lt Manny Lizaran PAF
54	_ 1,	7 100, 000, 100, 17	SSgt Jhofel Maralit PAF
55	25.	TOG-4	1LT Jessie Sibayan PAF
56	26.	NISG-SL	L† Rodel Nieves PN
57	27.	NISG-West	LT Allen G Montaño PN
58	27.	11100 11001	SN1 Aireen Manicdao PN
59	28.	O/G2, 3MBDE	CPT Edgardo Antonio PN(M)
60	29.	MBLT3	SSgt Michel Descargar PN(M)
61	۷,	MBEIS	33gi Michel Descuigal Fragmi
62	PNP		
63	30.	APC-Southern Luzon	PLTC Ramil Bergado
64	31.	RID, PRO-MIMAROPA	PMaj Michael Angelo C Erlano
65	32.	RIU-4B	PLtCol Neftaly A Donato
66	33.	RMFB-4B	PCol Rolando C Lampad
67	34.	RACU-MIMAROPA	PCpt Benny DV Felipe
	3 4 .	10 th SAB, PNP-SAF	PCpt Thom Ed L Taghoy II
68	55.	10 3AB, 1 NI -3AI	PCpl Hydrone Daiz Asingco
69	36.	RTC-MIMAROPA	PSSgt Arsenio Real
70	36.	RIC-MIMAROFA	rssgi Alsellio Redi
71 72	PCG		
	37.	CGIG-STL	SNO Byan Christian Alday
73			SN2 Ryan Christian Alday
74	38.	CGIG-Palawan	PO3 Rosie Mae Rosales
75	AUC A	40	
76	NICA		DDD Marriagailar Carriaga
77	39.	NICA-4B	DRD Mariacita Santos
78			Actg ARD-OPS Jonathan Bejemil
79			Palawan-PSO, C Shulan Primavera
80			
81			
82			

83	ERIC-	-4B Secretariat (NICA-4B)
84	40.	Ms Maria Cristina Rocillo
85	41.	Ms Mary Joy Amoranto
86	42.	Mr Giovanni M Manahan

II. Call to Order, Opening Remarks, and Message

Having a quorum, the **Chair**, NICA-4B RD **Ariel T Perlado** called the meeting order.

NICA-4B DRD **Santos** delivered the opening remarks in the meeting. In her message, she welcomed the ERIC-4B members and guests for attending the meeting, especially officers from the National Task Force-End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) Secretariat headed by the newly-appointed NTF-ELCAC Executive Director, USEC **Salamat**. She introduced the agenda items that will be discussed during the meeting.

DRD **Santos** added that the NICA-4B, as the head of the MIMAROPA Regional Situational Awareness and Knowledge Management (SAKM) Cluster, can utilize this committee as an avenue to connect the various units from the security sector and regional line government agencies (LGAs) for a more effective approach to end local communist armed conflict (ELCAC) in terms of legal matters, livelihood for former rebels, and other issues and concerns.

She urged everyone to share issues and clarification on the topics that will be discussed, particularly on other RTF-ELCAC issues.

For his part, NTF-ELCAC Executive Director USec **Salamat**, in his message, greeted the Body and extended his gratitude in joining the MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC TWG meeting for the third quarter of 2022. He shared that the MIMAROPA is very close to his heart as he was assigned in Palawan as the U2, WESCOM in 2013. He further explained that the said meeting is just one of the many activities to be taken by the MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC to discuss the significant updates and to address to identified challenges to attain its goals in the last quarter and plans for succeeding years.

He expressed his appreciation on the efforts of the TWG in the ELCAC campaign and for the collaboration and partnership with the local government units (LGUs) and regional LGAs which resulted to several accomplishments. With the whole-of-nation approach--through various programs and activities that stretch an opportunity to urge the remaining CTG rebels to finally return to the folds of the law and to actively participate in the government drive against terrorism to finally achieve the sustainable peace and development in the region--the CTG has remarkably weakened in MIMAROPA.

 He reminded the Regional SAKM Cluster in its objective and responsibility to provide significant information needed to meet and address the challenges of the NTF-ELCAC mandate. He encouraged everyone to have a common aspiration and share a common patriotic goal in seeking the welfare of the community that we serve.

III. Review of the Minutes and Decision Points/Actionable Items of the ERIC-4B 2nd Quarter 2022

The Body approved and adopted the summary of discussion and decision points of the ERIC-4B 2nd Quarter 2022 after being moved and duly seconded.

Following the approval of the minutes, the Body reviewed and provided an update on the actionable items of the previous, meetings:

On the inclusion of an undertaking to be signed by candidates when filing their Certificate of Candidacies (COCs), and the inclusion of the NTF-CTA/IOGE/IOB in the orientation of the newly elected officials in coordination with the DILG, the Chair highlighted that the purpose of this concern is for the SAKM Cluster to provide orientation to newly-elected on the extent of CTG operations in their respective areas since politicians are vulnerable to the influence of the CTG. He called the attention of the DILG-MIMAROPA representative to update the body on this matter.

In response, Ms **Panganiban** of DILG-MIMAROPA said that they are currently conducting the Newly Elected Official (NEO) Orientation Program. He asked the **Chair** if they have already submitted a letter to the DILG for the inclusion of said NTF70-Call to Action (CTA)/Orientation for Government Executives and Employees on the CTG Problem (OGEE) to the program. The **Chair** stated that since this was part of the actionable items that was discussed during the previous ERIC-4B meeting, he expected that it was agreed upon that the OGEE will be included to the orientation for the newly elected officials, and requested for the inclusion of the NTF70-CTA in the program if the is still ongoing. Ms **Panganiban** said that she will refer the matter to the Capacity Development Division for the inclusion of NTF-CTA to the orientation of NEO.

Dir **Pacis** of NTF-ELCAC Secretariat stressed the conduct of OGEE. She shared that during the meeting between NTF-ELCAC Secretariat and Staff of the Committee on Appropriation of the House of Representative headed by

Representative **Alvarez** and Representative **Paduano**, the lawmakers suggested that all local government officials undergo a briefing about NTF-ELCAC. Dir **Pacis** added that both Representatives said that it would help if these government officials will know the real situation the country is facing with the CPP-NPA-NDF. She highlighted that this was shared to the ERIC-4B members for them to be aware that even during the Budget Hearing of every Agency, this issue is being brought up by the Committee on Appropriation.

The **Chair** thanked Dir **Pacis** for sharing the said information. He explained that the RTF-ELCAC MIMAROPA, particularly the Regional SAKM and PLEDS Clusters, are ready for that and are only waiting for the DILG-MIMAROPA to make this orientation with the NEO happen. The Chair added that they have all the materials needed including former rebels (FR) to testify against the CTG.

On the copy of the Orientation on the Youth and Student Recruitment (OYSTER) for the DepEd-MIMAROPA for review, the Secretariat reported that the OYSTER was forwarded to DepEd-MIMAROPA on 25 June 2022 via e-mail.

 On the mobilization of KKDAT chapters for the NTF70-CTA/OYSTER, the Secretariat said that they are waiting for the schedule of the conduct of the OYSTER to KKDAT chapters in Occidental Mindoro.

 On tapping the DSWD as speakers/messengers of the NTF70-CTA, the Secretariat reported that the NTF70-CTA package was provided to DSWD-MIMAROPA, while NTF70-CTA/OGEE was conducted to DSWD employees on 01 September 2022.

Commenting during the discussion on the NTF60-CTA, the **Chair** said that the youth is one of the vulnerable sectors as far as CTG exploitation is concerned, and this is the reason why OYSTER is being proposed to be included in the curriculum or as part of student orientations during the start of the classes. He explained that if this becomes operational, the OYSTER materials will be provided to the DepEd and will be delivered by the teachers during students' orientation. He stressed that they missed the chance to inform the students and making them aware on the threat posed by the CTG since classes have already resumed. The **Chair** also cited the action taken in other regions and showed a memorandum of CHEd-10 directing the universities and colleges in the region to include

the OYSTER or hold a seminar to the students about the CTG. He called for the assistance of CHED-MIMAROPA and DepEd-MIMAROPA to replicate this action of CHEd-10 in the region.

RD **Alisuag** of CHED-MIMAROPA said that there is a directive from CHEd national office regarding this, adding that they will schedule a meeting from the regional level down to the school level after the budget hearings. He also pledged to coordinate with the Regional SAKM Cluster on the implementation of said matter.

Dir **Pacis** shared that the Western Visayas RTF-ELCAC facilitated the signing of a MOA in September 2022 to ensure peace, security and safety of educational institutions and provision of basic services and support. She explained that this is to realize securing the welfare of the children by protecting the schools from conflict, including child trafficking.

The **Chair** said that these are among the best practices from other regions, which other government units are encouraged to replicate.

Atty **Labuguen** of the DepEd-MIMAROPA said that after they received the OYSTER materials in June 2022, she prepared a memorandum for RD **Capulong** commenting that the OYSTER is a good orientation for students. She also requested to RD **Capulong** same materials be forwarded to the Educational Support Services Division and Curriculum Division for their review to determine on how it will be injected to the curriculum. Atty **Labuguen** committed to follow-up on this matter to be included in the curriculum for this School Year.

Relatedly, the **Chair** informed Atty **Labuquen** that sometime second week of September 2022, the NICA-4B monitored the conduct of Cinemalaya film showing at the Palawan National High School (PNHS), which, according to former rebels (FRs), government. presented CTG agenda against the He suggested to Atty Labuguen to include in their memorandum to inform the schools about the plans of CTG front organizations to conduct cultural shows, which is a scheme of the CTG to infiltrate the minds of the students. Atty **Labuguen** said she will consider the suggestion of the Chair. She also thanked the Chair for sharing the information about the PNHS, and said the DepEd-MIMAROPA will look into the film showing that happened at the school.

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 On the 17 CTG personalities with warrant, the Secretariat reported that RID-MIMAROPA have provided the list on 21 July 2022.

IV. Highlights of the Meeting/Discussions

<u>Update on the Peace and Order Situation in MI</u>MAROPA

PNP Maj **Carlano**, chief of the Counterintelligence Security Section of RID-MIMAROPA, presented a briefing on the update on the peace and order in MIMAROPA. According to Maj **Carlano**, the region recorded a decrease of 52 or 4.82 percent in total crime incidents from 1,079 in the second quarter of 2022 to 1,027 incidents from 1 July to 19 September. Index crimes--murder, homicide, physical injury, rape, robbery, carnapping, motornapping, and special complex crimes--totaled 788 in the third quarter, while non-index crimes--violation of drugs, illegal gambling, violence against women and children, and violation of environmental as well as firearms laws--totaled 746 in the second quarter.

Maj **Carlano** noted that index crimes declined by 25 percent or 44 incidents with 176 in the second quarter versus 132 in the third quarter. Murder decreased from 20 to 18, physical injury from 21 to 12, rape from 65 to 40, robbery from 21 to 19, and theft from 33 to 31 during the same period. However, homicide cases increased from three to five, motornapping from two to six, and carnapping from zero to one. Non-index crimes also saw a decline from three incidents during the previous quarter to one in the current period. As suggested by the figures, rape remains the most prevalent crime in the region. The recent decline in rape cases, however, was attributed to the holding of numerous anti-rape campaigns and improved community relations.

In sum, Maj **Carlano** assessed that the peace and order situation in MIMAROPA remains manageable. He also attributed the decrease in crimes in the region to the collective and proactive measures of the PNP, particularly intensified law enforcement operations, implementation of local ordinances, and maximum deployment of PNP personnel on the streets.

Update on the Implementation of the BDP and E-CLIP in MIMAROPA

 Ms **Panganiban** from the DILG-MIMAROPA presented a briefing on the status of implementation of the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) in MIMAROPA, informing the members that a total of 499 FRs have been provided with over P34,000,000 in financial assistance covering livelihood, reintegration, and firearms renumeration, among others.

Ms **Panganiban** said that the DILG-MIMAROPA has already processed 53 FRs in the region, providing them with over P5,000,000 in financial assistance. The DILG has processed 54 requests, released 53 claims, and has one pending claim that is awaiting funding. On the status of halfway houses, those constructed in Palawan, Oriental Mindoro, and Occidental Mindoro are already complete. The halfway house in Oriental Mindoro is set to be inaugurated in the fourth quarter of 2022, while the facility in Occidental Mindoro is ready for operation. The facility in Palawan, however, is not yet operational and is awaiting utilities, fixtures and furniture.

On other updates regarding the E-CLIP, Ms **Panganiban** reported that a DILG memorandum compelling provincial and highly urbanized cities to immediately reorganize and expand their E-CLIP committees was recently released. Romblon and Marinduque were also covered by the memorandum despite being insurgency-free in case rebels from other areas surrender there.

On the status of the implementation of the Support to Barangay Development Program (SBDP) as of 15 September 2022, in Occidental Mindoro, 47 projects have already been completed, while another nine are still ongoing. In Oriental Mindoro, 15 projects are still ongoing implementation, while three others are under pipeline status. The stalled projects include two projects in Bgy Buntog Natuog in Socorro facing land title issues, and another in Bgy Panatayan in Mansalay. The DILG has already requested the provincial government to help address the issues. On the other hand, Palawan has 10 completed projects and 25 projects ongoing implementation. In total, 57 projects have already been completed, 49 are ongoing implementation, and three others stalled, for a total of 109 projects under the SDBP.

In terms of the breakdown of projects in Occidental Mindoro as of fiscal year 2021, farm-to-market roads comprised the most with 11 projects with a total project cost of P57,500,000. Overall, Occidental Mindoro has a total of 56 project proposals, 47 of which have been completed with total cost of P180,000,000. Oriental Mindoro, for its part, has a total of 18 projects being proposed with an estimated cost of P160,000,000. Of these, 11 projects are farm-to-market roads worth P129,750,000. In Palawan, on the other hand, 35 projects have been proposed worth P160,000,000, of which 10 are farm-to-market roads already completed worth P112,500,000.

In terms of the breakdown of projects in Occidental Mindoro as of fiscal year 2022, farm-to-market roads accounted for the most with eight projects amounting to P28,000,000. In total, Occidental Mindoro has 16 projects worth P48,000,000. In Oriental Mindoro, farm-to-market road projects also accounted for the most proposed with four projects worth P13,000,000. In total, Oriental Mindoro has 11 proposed projects worth P28,000,000. Palawan, for its part, has a total of 43 proposed projects with

an estimated cost of P140,000,000. Farm-to-market projects accounted for the most with 25 projects worth P85,000,000.

For the SBDP 2022, Occidental Mindoro has six municipalities, 12 barangays, and 16 proposed projects worth P48,000,000. Oriental Mindoro has a total of four municipalities, seven barangays, and 11 number of proposed projects worth P28,000,000. Palawan has nine municipalities, 35 barangays, and 43 proposed projects worth P140,000,000. In total, the three provinces have 19 municipalities, 54 barangays, and 70 proposed projects worth P216,000,000.

During the open forum, the **Chair** asked whether or not the LGU in Occidental Mindoro had already downloaded the P48,000,000 allocated for the province. Ms **Panganiban** said the funds were downloaded by the implementing units of Occidental Mindoro on 20 September, adding that the release of the funds for Palawan and Oriental Mindoro were waiting the approval of the MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC through NEDA. The **Chair** urged the need to accelerate the release of funds for the two provinces, particularly Palawan, since it will be declared insurgency-free soon. He emphasized that the release of the funds for Palawan could be considered a success indicator showing how the province has been cleared of the CTG and is now ready for development.

Thereafter, NEDA-MIMAROPA representative Ms **Sarabia** provided updates on the SBDP. For 2021, Oriental Mindoro was facing a few problems because after the endorsement, approval and download of the funds last year, stakeholders requested a retitling of their projects in Socorro twice. To address the said concern, the DBM has requested the provincial government to issue a certificate showing that the funds have not been used, annexes, particularly "omnibus sworn statements", and the endorsement of the RTF.

For 2022, **Sarabia** said Occidental Mindoro was the earliest to submit their SBDP proposal projects, allowing the NEDA to review and endorse them as early as May. The NEDA also approved Oriental Mindoro's proposed projects on 9 September. She noted that the 2021 SBDP endorsements by the RTF was coursed through the DBM, while the 2022 SBDP proposals as provided by the Local Budget Circular was now coursed through the NTF-ELCAC. Palawan submitted its project proposals in September and is currently being reviewed with regard to compliance of their documentary requirements.

The **Chair** asked why only P4 million instead of P20,000,000 was being disbursed per barangays. **Sarabia** said the DILG may be able to answer his question but affirmed that only four million pesos would be allocated per barangay in 2022. Dir **Batle** from the NTF-ELCAC explained that budget constraints, the COVID-19 pandemic, and recent elections have affected

the budget. He said the NTF-ELCAC requested P28,000,000,000 during the last budget hearing which would have allowed the disbursement of P20 milloin per barangay but was denied. Nevertheless, Dir **Batle** said that several barangays have already reprioritized their development projects in response to the reduction in the budget.

For planning purposes, Dir **Batle** revealed that the DBM is willing to allocate P10,000,000,000 for development projects in 2023. He added that the figure may increase or decrease depending on the budget hearing next year. Based on previous hearings last year, Dir **Batle** assessed that the budget might be reduced at the Senate level. He also noted that Palawan was the last to submit their project proposals last year causing a delay in their endorsement and approval. The **Chair** suggested the need to inform the barangays of the decrease in the budget for their proposed projects so as not to surprise or disappoint them.

 Moreover, Dir **Batle** reminded the group that Region-4B still has three barangays still in the first stage of procurement. He encouraged the need to remind implementing LGUs that they have only until December 2022 to comply with requirements otherwise their P60B budget may be nullified.

Issues and Concerns on MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC

 Dir **Bajarin** from the NTF-ELCAC Secretariat expressed concern regarding the minimal submission of daily, weekly and monthly reports of operation centers, including MIMAROPA RTF-ELCAC. He said that the NTF-ELCAC has been tasked to submit weekly reports for the NSA as basis to update the president. Dir **Batle**, for his part, reported that the NTF-ELCAC is preparing for the budget hearing next year. He said that opposition legislators have raised and criticized the NTF-ELCAC's disbursement rate of funds in 2022. He cited Region-4B as having a 58 percent obligation rate and 37 percent disbursement rate, meaning it is among the lowest in both criteria. He suggested the need to improve the region's obligation and disbursement rates to prevent further criticism from the opposition.

The **Chair** admitted difficulties in harmonizing efforts of RTF-MIMAROPA which is why the NICA was appointed as head of the TWG. He stressed the need to overhaul the system of reporting and coordination to improve the submission of reports and prevent delays. He also recommended holding a meeting among members of the group to discuss a possible format.

V. Decision Points and Actionable Items

On Counter-CTG Organizing

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Chair, ERIC-4B